

SAF/LLZ (Legislative Research Team)

EMERSON, Jo Ann (Republican)
Representative, 8th District, Missouri
Elected 1996 to 105th Congress.
Reelected to succeeding Congresses



BACKGROUND

Born: Washington, DC - 16 September 1950

Home: Cape Girardeau, MO

Marital status: Married (Ron) - 2 children, 6 stepchildren

Religion: Presbyterian

Education: Ohio Wesleyan U, BA, 1972 (political science)

Profession: Public affairs executive; lobbyist

Military: None

Political: Succeeded her husband, Bill Emerson, after he died from lung cancer in 1996. In special election, elected to the House in 1996 with 50.5% of the vote. Reelected in 2000 with 69% of the vote and in 2002 with 72%.

Rep Emerson is a conservative who votes along party lines 90% of the time, but supported President Bush only 82% of the time in the 107th Congress – the lowest score of any Missouri Republican. Supports property owner's rights over increased environmental protections. Mentioned as potential Senate candidate.

In the 107th Congress, supported the Democratic initiative to federalize airline workers. Member of congressional delegation that traveled to Cuba to promote the sale of American agricultural products.

Additional:

AF Bases: None

COMMITTEES

APPROPRIATIONS: Sub incl – Agriculture; Energy & Water; Homeland Security